# DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

P.O. Box 944246 SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460 Website: www.fire.ca.gov (916) 445-8200



# CALIFORNIA CODE ADOPTION Meeting Notes Height and Area Subcommittee February 9, 2006, 8:00am to 10:00am Teleconference

# ATTENDEES:

Facilitators: Stuart Tom, Glendale Building

**Committee or Group Members Present:** 

Christina Jamison, VCFD
Laura Blaul, OCFA
Doug Williams, Rincon Valley Fire
Dennis Richardson, San Jose Building
Ken Kraus, LA City Fire
Stephan Kiefer, Livermore Building
Ali Fattah, San Diego Building
Brit Rockafellow, San Diego Fire

**CDF/SFM Staff Present:** 

## **STAKEHOLDERS IN AUDIENCE:**

Mark Kluver, Portland Cement Assoc. Rick Thornberry, The Code Consortium Jon Traw, Laguna Woods Building

#### **DOCUMENT HANDOUTS:**

- 1. Meeting Agenda
- 2. Miscellaneous material presented by Kevin Scott

#### AGENDA:

None

- 1. Introductions (confirm who is participating)
- 2. Discussion of minutes from last conference call
- 3. AREA brief discussion & recap
- 4. HEIGHT
  - a) Discussion regarding the need to address height if "double-dip" sprinkler credit is amended while addressing AREA
  - b) Discussion of 20-feet extra height (IBC 504.2)
  - c) Proposal(s) to address HEIGHT
- 5. Round-table wrap-up
- 6. Next meeting

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#### **DISCUSSION/COMMENTS:**

- 1. Stuart verified attendance and volunteered to prepare minutes for the meeting. As facilitator, he established the ground rules for the teleconference and instructed all participants to stay focused; the meeting would be kept to 2-hours.
- 2. AREA was discussed, and the group determined to keep its position; ie., no amendment recommended at this time. There is still some concern which will be documented in the minutes from the last meeting, but no amendments will be proposed strictly to address AREA. While addressing HEIGHT, the group acknowledged that AREA might be adjusted, because the modifiers in the IBC are inter-related. The committee agreed that by considering HEIGHT, some of the AREA concerns might be addressed, since an amendment to address the HEIGHT issue might have an affect on AREA that the committee would consider appropriate. The committee agreed to keep this in mind during the following discussion.
- 3. The group immediately focused its attention on HEIGHT, and determined that the increased height that could be achieved for the various types of construction, would put occupants and safety/rescue responders at greater risk than they are currently exposed to. Concerns regarding responder safety/injury as well as occupant safety and property loss were discussed.
- 4. The majority of the committee agreed that amendments were necessary to address the following issues:
  - 1) IBC 504.2 (double-dipping sprinkler benefit <u>and</u> acceptance of NFPA 13R for sprinkler benefits
  - 2) IBC 506.3 (double-dipping sprinkler benefit)
  - 3) IBC 506.4 (multi-story area increase for 3-story and taller)
  - 4) IBC 903.3.1.2 (acceptance of NFPA 13R for sprinkler benefits)

All committee members supported the need for the 4 amendments, with the exception that Stephan Kiefer did not feel that an amendment was necessary for IBC 506.4, and Dennis Richardson was neutral in regards to IBC 506.4.

- 5. Brit Rockafellow suggested that language similar to UBC 904.1.3 be considered when drafting amendment language for IBC 903.3.1.2, because it addresses a similar concern. The Committee agreed.
- 6. Stuart Tom solicited comments from the group to determine how to prepare the amendments, and was given guidance. He agreed to prepare the amendments and minutes and to post them to eSolutions and to the SFM website.
- 6. Final comments were shared in round-table fashion, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am

### **ACTION ITEMS (FOLLOW UP) AND RESPONSIBLES:**

- 1. Stuart to prepare amendments as discussed and post to eSolutions.
- 2. Stuart to prepare minutes and send to SFM for posting

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

TBD – Pending outcome of 2-day Core Advisory Meeting on 2/13 and 2/14 in Sacramento.